

STOCKTON'S EXCITING STORY

The Great War Syndicate

HAS REACHED AN INTERESTING POINT.

YOU CAN BEGIN IT TO-DAY

With a Synopsis of the Preceding Installments.

SEE THE EVENING WORLD.

PRICE ONE CENT.

AFTER MR. BABCOCK

Maids and Spinsters Offer to Marry Him for Cash.

Some of the Epistles Received by the Money-Afflicted Man.

See Brooklyn Girl Pays a "Forfeit" and Others Write for Fun.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Jan. 17.—Readers of THE EVENING WORLD have already been made acquainted with the unfortunate position of "Bachelor Babcock"—John L. by name—who, according to the will of an eccentric uncle, must marry within five years or forfeit \$500,000 of the aforesaid uncle's estate.

As THE EVENING WORLD in a recent issue published a truthful description of Mr. Babcock's personal appearance, it is not necessary to inform the surplus of spinsters that he is anything but an Adonis. But the girls are after him in and out of season. By their own declaration over one thousand fair ones stand ready to accept Babcock and his boodles. There are school teachers and variety actresses among them; widowed washerwomen and genteel girls; ladies who have passed the age which is attractive, and tender buds whose mothers evasively do not know what their offspring are about.

Most of them are perfectly honest. They admit that they don't care two cents for Babcock; don't want to live with him as his wife, have no fun for anything but his money and will cheerfully agree to any terms he has to propose.

Some offer to take as low as \$5,000 to marry him, thus asking him to fulfil the terms of the will, and then to leave him forever, while others think \$50,000 would be about right for the sacrifice they propose to make.

Every mail brings fresh proposals. They are arriving at the rate of 200 a week and threaten to increase to 500.

Mr. Babcock has employed two private secretaries and a shorthand writer to enable him to answer his fair correspondents, which he does with conscientiousness which would make a popular Congressman weary.

Every proposal is also regarded as sacred so far as the name of the proposer is concerned. The letters, or copies of them, are shown newspaper men without hesitation, but the signatures are withheld.

Mr. Babcock, generally, says: "Many of these letter-writers are foolish women, whom I do not wish to damage by publishing their folly."

This much can be said, and it may have the result of lessening the number of "bachelors" mail. He is not under the necessity of going outside of Ann Arbor or Detroit—certainly not outside of Michigan—for a wife, and is not at all likely to accept the proposal of any one of the thousands who have written him from Maine to Mexico.

That he intends to comply with the provisions of the will there is no doubt, and he will soon begin the erection of a handsome residence near the Ann Arbor University. Here are copies of extracts of some of the letters:

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Jan. 1.—In order to regain my health, I have been ordered to a game of "Forfeit." I have to say the least, I am a little out of my head, and I am looking for a wife. So, then, to begin with, I am small, quite nicely reformed, have a good temper, am lazy and easy, a well educated, an excellent musician, pretty good housewife with a sharp eye-color, green or gray—for business, eighteen years four months four days old. My mother is dead, and my father and my father-in-law are both dead. So I have to stay at home like a great baby.

WABRAM, Mass., Jan. 9.—Mr. Babcock: Here is one more letter from the Massachusetts surplus. If you are not too busy to take it, will you please send it to the many lads anxious to be taken into the fold. Understand I do this from a sense of duty and not from any other motive.

The foregoing are fair samples of scores of letters whose overtures are actuated evidently by a spirit of fun.

In most of the epistles are very serious and the writers apparently dead in earnest. This one is all the way from San Francisco:

I am the oldest of four children. If you have made your choice, perhaps you know of some other gentleman friend who wants a wife.

From Crystal Springs, Mass., comes this one:

I have heard a great deal about you, and to say I am pleased, you do not express my feelings. When I saw the shape of your head, I was surprised. Oh, Mr. Babcock, do you chew tobacco? I know, am all your heart content to have a rich, good-looking fellow, who would charm the soul and paralyze the intellect. What do you think of me? I would practice until I reached perfect pitch.

A Detroit young lady writes:

Mr. Babcock: I have you will place me on the list of fair suitors for your hand. I can assure you that I am a very nice, pretty, and am proficient in the arts of housekeeping.

Here is one all business from New York City:

The writer of this is a young business lady who has been accustomed to the best society. Hope you will give the undersigned a chance, and the great lottery of love.

There is an occasional indignant protest received from the serious correspondents who are shocked at the foolishness of her sex in offering themselves as a sacrifice on the altar of matrimony.

FREE LECTURES TO-NIGHT.

Very Interesting Subjects Treated in Six Public Schools.

This evening the second series in the course of Free Evening Lectures secured to the working people by the passage last session of THE EVENING WORLD's bill will be given in the six public schools selected by the Board of Education.

This evening's series is very interesting and valuable, as will be seen by the following list of topics and lecturers:

In Grammar School No. 83, 210 East One Hundred and Tenth street, Prof. Leipzig on "Rights and Duties of Citizenship."

In Grammar School No. 42, 30 Allen street, Prof. Mott on the "Chemistry of What We Eat and Drink."

In Grammar School No. 27, 208 East Forty-second street, Dr. Tansley on "The Eye and Ear."

In Grammar School No. 67, 225 West Forty-first street, Dr. Hanchett on "Feeding and Rearing the Human Machinery."

The lectures begin at 8 o'clock and are open to both men and women.

In Grammar School No. 82, Seventeenth street and First avenue, F. G. Caldwell on "The Starry Firmament."

In Grammar School No. 51, 523 West Forty-fourth street, Prof. Sloan on "How to Study Science at Home."

Next Monday evening and every Monday and Thursday evening until April 29 free lectures will be given in the same schools.

NEGATION THEIR FORTRESS.

Officers of That Motor Company Intrench Themselves in Silence.

"Silence is golden" seems to be the motto of the "Electric Traction Motor Company," the existence of which has been brought to the notice of the public through the forthcoming suit of Rev. George F. Warren, of Newark, against Rev. Thomas M. Colwell, of Mount Vernon, business manager of the Motor Company, for commissions on sales of the company's stock. The stockholders put their money in four years ago, and as yet the Company has not made any statement regarding its doings.

Any of the stockholders who have been asked for the statement had not their suspicions been aroused by the suit of their pastor, who had been told all along to understand that he was inducing them to invest out of pure love for their welfare and not to increase his own bank account from the commission on the sale.

But information is not readily accessible. The only person who would report found at the office of the company, called upon by H. C. Potter, Building, was W. S. Little, who, according to the sign on the door, is the Secretary.

When the stockholders were asked for the statement, he was only four words better than a Sphinx.

The only person who told the public something about the motor? asked the visitor.

"I decline to answer," was the Secretary's reply.

"Have the experiments proved successful?" "I decline to answer."

"What are the names of the officers?" "I decline to answer."

The newspaperer quailed before this negative reply and asked the Secretary to give him the names of the officers.

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IS FAN FRIGHTENED?

The New Spook Priestess Said to Fear Ann O'Delia's Fate.

Just Possible that She May Leave the City.

A Visit to Her Elegant Quarters by an "Evening World" Reporter.

Mrs. Fannie Stryker, the Spiritualist who is alleged to have Stationer George Carroll in her toils, was at home in the elegant Lenox Hill apartment-house No. 987 Madison avenue when an EVENING WORLD young man went there this morning, but she declined to be seen or interviewed.

The pretty maid who told the reporter so, volunteered the information that Mr. Stryker would not be seen either, and that it was useless to ask for Mr. Carroll, as he had gone downtown.

Then she slammed the door with a very material slam in his face, and the young man went out into the cold rain again, haunted by the recollection of the luxury he had seen displayed in the spook woman's home.

For a woman who once lived on the top floor in a shabby house in Brooklyn she is rolling high now.

Her suite of rooms is on the ground floor. The walls are decorated with expensive paintings.

In the outer room where the reporter waited Mrs. Stryker's answer, there is a life-size picture of her, in a massive gilt frame, on the bottom of which is inscribed the words, "Our Chosen One."

This was a present to her from some of her Spiritualistic friends. Divans, ottomans, easy-chairs, expensive bric-a-brac and furniture of the most costly kind are scattered throughout the rooms.

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EXTRA

2 O'CLOCK.

KILLED IN AFRICA.

Another Massacre of the German Missionaries.

Eight Men and Women Murdered and Their Bodies Mutilated.

Further Particulars of the Recent Attack at Dar-es-Salaam.

BY CABLE TO THE EVENING NEWS ASSOCIATION. LONDON, Jan. 17.—A despatch from Zanzibar gives details of another outbreak of the natives with most shocking results.

The affair occurred last Sunday when the German mission station at Taji was attacked.

Eight missionaries, men and women, were massacred and their bodies horribly mutilated. The slaves and servants were taken prisoners.

The news caused a painful sensation in Zanzibar. The Germans are enraged and clamor for revenge.

Additional particulars of the attack on Dar-es-Salaam, which took place last Friday, are at hand.

The station was unguarded, and contained three male and two female missionaries and 100 natives who had been freed from slavery.

One of the missionaries was severely wounded, but managed to escape to the German man-of-war Mowe.

All the others were captured and sold into slavery in the interior.

The Mowe bombarded the town, but did no harm to the insurgents.

WAGENHURST SUCCEEDS WARD.

The Young Princeton Captain to Be Tried Among the Giants.

Elwood O. Wagenhurst has become a Giant. Manager Mutrie closed his negotiations to this end yesterday, and Wagenhurst will be given at least a trial in the place lately filled by John Montgomery Ward.

The new shortstop is a young and ambitious player, and attracted attention first by his brilliant work with the Princeton College team, of which he was captain. He covered third base for the Philadelphia team during the last season.

Harry Wright was much impressed with Wagenhurst's showing and Manager Mutrie is confident that his new man will prove a prize.

Wagenhurst is twenty-three years old, 5 feet 10 inches in height, weighs 165 pounds, is of powerful build, throws well and has been a heavy hitter.

PUNCTUAL MAYOR GRANT.

He Beats His Staff of Assistants in Beginning His Day at the Desk.

Mayor Grant is a remarkable contrast to his predecessor in office in that he is one of the first of the city's officials to arrive at the City Hall in the morning.

It is not an uncommon thing for 9 o'clock to find him seated at his desk, busily engaged by the business of the day.

The members of his personal staff are aware of this peculiarity of the young and energetic Mayor, and they make desperate, but not always successful, efforts to reach their desks before his arrival.

In the Britannic's Cabin.

Among the cabin passengers on the White Star steamer Britannic, which sailed for England yesterday, were Charles Mitchell, the pugilist; Henry F. Gillig, of the defunct American Exchange; Capt. Dawson, Miss Dawson, Rev. and Mrs. Jacob Freshman, Capt. Merritt, Samuel L. Phillips, William S. Sims, Jr., S. N. Rev. and Mrs. John T. Smith and Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Tucker. The North German Lloyd steamship Tuck, for Bremen and Southampton, Capt. Thiele, and the German liner, Capt. Thiele, were also on board.

The United States steamer Thetis, which was taken out of dry dock at San Francisco today, was sent as far into Alaskan waters as the ice will permit, in search of whalers reported to be in distress.

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